

Appl. No. 10/052,889
Amdt. dated December 8, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 23, 2003

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 9-24 are pending. The Examiner divided the claims into three groups.

Applicants elect Group III with claim 24.

Claims 1-23 are cancelled. Claims 24-28 are pending.

New claims 25-28 find support as follows:

Claim 25, reciting different species, finds support on page 6, line 30.

Claim 26, reciting different species and no detectable nuclei, finds support on page 6, lines 22-25. Claims 27 and 28, reciting the use of detergents and enzymes to prepare the matrix, find support on page 27, lines 11-23.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenneth A. Weber
Reg. No. 31,677

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
KAW:jhd

60093769 v1